



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

February 4, 2008

Mr. William Maxwell
Associate Professor
Department Of English
University of Illinois
608 South Wright Street
Urbana, IL 61801

Request No.: 1108418- 000
Subject: DUNHAM, KATHERINE

Dear Requester:

The records that you have requested were previously processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act for another requester.

Enclosed are 229 pages of documents pertaining to your request and a copy of the explanation of exemptions.

You may submit an appeal from any denial contained herein by writing to the Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, 1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, within sixty days from the date of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hardy", is written over a horizontal line.

David M. Hardy
Section Chief,
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could be reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could be reasonably expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

100-

HQ-334795

Sec. 1

Serials 1---



100-HQ-334795-1

U. S. Department of Justice

MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

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DESTROY

FOIPA# 1072007

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK CITY**

SA FILE NO. **108-175**

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b7C

REPORT MADE AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	DATE WHEN MADE 10/23/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/13-10/13/44	REPORT MADE BY [Redacted]
TITLE KATHERINE DUNHAM			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C; FOREIGN TRAVEL CONTROL

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: KATHERINE DUNHAM arrived San Antonio 9/13/44 via American Airlines. On interview by FTC panel she advised that she is an American citizen and was born on 1/22/09 in Chicago, Illinois. DUNHAM is a dancer and was enroute from Mexico City, where she had been on a two-weeks vacation, to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Her permanent address is New York City. No derogatory information developed on interview. Bureau advised that one KATHERINE DUNHAM, believed to be identical with subject, has been mentioned frequently in connection with several Communist front groups.

REFERENCE: Bureau letter dated 10/5/44.

DETAILS: KATHERINE DUNHAM, negro, arrived in San Antonio 9/13/44 via American Airlines. On interview by Special Agent [Redacted] on the Foreign Travel Control panel DUNHAM furnished the following information:

She was born in Chicago 1/22/09 and was proceeding from Mexico City, where she had spent two weeks on vacation at the Reforma Hotel, to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where she said she would be for one week. DUNHAM stated that she travels throughout the country in her capacity as dancer with her own troupe. Her permanent address is 711 Fifth Avenue, New York City. She had no passport but was traveling on a tourist card. She added that she has engaged in no foreign travel since 1938. No derogatory information was developed on interview.

By reference letter the Bureau advised that one KATHERINE DUNHAM, a negro dancer, has been mentioned frequently in connection with various Communist front groups.

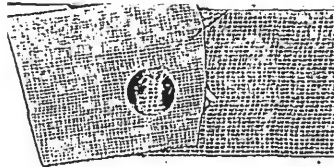
In view of the above, it is believed that the passenger is identical with the subject mentioned in reference Bureau communication.

Inasmuch as KATHERINE DUNHAM's home is New York City, the New York Office is being designated as origin and this report is being submitted for the information of that office.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 3 New York 2 San Antonio	<div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">108-334795</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <p>AGENCY: <i>cc: State</i></p> <p>REQ. REC'D: <i>1-29-53</i></p> <p>REP'T FORW.: <i>3-2-53</i></p> </div> <div> <p>41 OCT 26 1944</p> </div> </div> <p>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE <i>11/3/92</i> BY <i>[Signature]</i></p>
COPIES DESTROYED <i>1-13-60</i>	COPY IN FILE <i>P-101</i>

lower the for a change to rep U.S. about - Nov 1944



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... Rose To J. E. H. Thenceforth.

Hello

YOU'D BE GEE-WHIZZED AT THE AFTER-HOUR ORGIES THAT TAKE PLACE THRICE WEEKLY AT ONE OF THE TOWN'S MOST FAMOUS INTERPRETIVE DANCE STUDIOS.

(KATHERINE DUNHAM & ...)

Katherine Dunham

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/13/00 BY SP4 JAY/HG

SE 4
RECORDED 14

100-334795-2
F B I
31 APR 13 1948

EX-47

52 APR 21 1948

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

March 18, 1953

KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT
Aka Katherine Dunham
Born: June 22, 1912
Chicago, Illinois

In connection with your inquiry there is attached one copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] San Antonio, Texas, dated October 23, 1944, which was submitted in connection with the case entitled "Katherine Dunham Pratt Security Matter - C; Foreign Travel Control."

(100-334795)

For your further information the files of this Bureau contain the following pertinent data concerning this individual.

Abraham Lincoln School
(Chicago Workers School)

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A confidential and reliable informant advised in May, 1944, that [redacted] member of the Board of Directors of the Abraham Lincoln School (Chicago Labor School) stated that school officials wanted to do something for Katherine Dunham of "Tropical Review" and that they are thinking of having a cocktail party for her under the auspices of the Abraham Lincoln School. She stated that [redacted] of the International Workers Order was in favor of such an affair. (100-11507-264, page 10)

The Abraham Lincoln School and the International Workers Order were both cited by the Attorney General as organizations within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

Attachment

Original to State Department
Request received 1-29-53

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Laughlin _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

100-334795

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-4/BA/PCG

ON 11/3/00

SE-17

100-334795-3

HAR 20 1953

EX - 106

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

American Russian Institute of
San Francisco, California

A confidential informant of known reliability advised in the spring of 1944, that the Russian Consulate of San Francisco, California, was attending to the invitations for the reception to be held under the auspices of the American Russian Institute at San Francisco, California, in honor of Katherine Dunham the prominent dancer.

(100-370903-9, page 4) ✓

The American Russian Institute of San Francisco, California has been declared by the Attorney General to be within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

American Youth for Democracy

It was reliably reported that on February 15, 1945, the Four Freedoms Club of the American Youth for Democracy held a meeting at the Civic Center, 114 Erskine Street, Detroit, Michigan, and that the meeting was adjourned early so that the members could join in with the National Negro Congress party given for Katherine Dunham star of the "Tropical Review" which was going on in the same building. (61-777-15-251, pg. 9) ✓

The American Youth for Democracy and the National Negro Congress were both cited by the Attorney General as organizations within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

The Communist Party

The "Worker" New York City, issue of October 10, 1943, contained an article captioned "Ben Davis Candidacy Aroused National Interest." This article set forth information concerning the efforts which were being made to elect Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., a Communist Party candidate for the position of City Councilman for Manhattan. The article set forth that Katherine Dunham was one of the individuals backing the candidacy of Benjamin J. Davis, Jr.

(100-149163-A)

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The Committee on Un-American Activities, U.S. House of Representatives, 80th Congress, First Session, issued a booklet captioned "Report on Civil Rights Congress" dated February 15, 1947. On page 25 and 26 of this booklet an article is quoted from the "Daily Worker" issue of October 7, 1946, which sets forth that on the eve of the reopening of the court suit to bar the Communist Party from the New York State ballot, that certain leaders condemned the drive against minority party electoral rights as an assault on the American principal of free elections. The article reflects that a declaration was issued by the Civil Rights Congress of New York, defending the right of the Communist Party to appear on the ballot. One of the signers of the declaration according to the article was Katherine Dunham, dancer.

(61-10149-540)

Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee

536

A confidential informant of known reliability advised in March, 1944, that Katherine Dunham had agreed to have her troupe perform for the benefit of the San Francisco Branch of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.

A confidential informant who is believed to be reliable advised in June, 1944, that a Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee party was to be held in Chicago, Illinois, at the home of [redacted] and that Katherine Dunham was to be the guest of honor.

(100-370903-9)

The "Daily Worker" New York City issue of November 25, 1948, contains an article captioned "Marcantonio to Speak at Free Spain Rally, December 6." The article set forth that Congressman Vito Marcantonio would address the Liberation Rally for Spain to be held in New York City on December 6, 1948, under the auspices of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. The article set forth that the Katherine Dunham dancers would entertain.

(100-28126-A)

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Laughlin _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee was cited by the Attorney General as an organization within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

National Council of American Soviet Friendship, Incorporated

A confidential and reliable informant in October, 1945, advised that Katherine Dunham was one of the Vice-Chairmen of the New York Branch of the National Council of American Soviet Friendship, Incorporated.

(100-326-34-36, page 9)

The National Council of American Soviet Friendship, Incorporated, was cited by the Attorney General as an organization within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

Peoples Educational Center

There was made available to a representative of this Bureau a copy of the "Sounding Board" publication of the Student Council of the Peoples Educational Center, Los Angeles, California, issue of July, 1944. An article in this publication stated that Katherine Dunham was teaching Master Classes in Primitive Rhythm at Dave Kings Studio, 1105 North Serrano in Los Angeles, California.

(100-247118-12, page 58)

The Peoples Educational Center was cited by the Attorney General as an organization within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

Philadelphia School of Social Science

A confidential and reliable informant advised that the Philadelphia School of Social Science on December 16, 1944, gave a reception in honor of Katherine Dunham the dancer. Informant advised at that time Dunham gave a scholarship to the school to be awarded to a promising Negro student of the dance.

(100-154799-38; 61-777-37-113, page 23)

The Philadelphia School of Social Science was cited by the Attorney General as an organization within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

Contact With Soviet Consul, New York City

A confidential and reliable informant advised that on November 16, 1946, Katherine Dunham, the well-known dancer made an appointment to see the Consul General of the Soviet Consulate in New York City. (100-829-916, page 27 & 28)

Southern Conference for Human Welfare

The "Worker" issue of August 25, 1946, contains an article captioned "Artists Sponsor Campaign for South." The article set forth that a group of artists have joined the Sponsoring Committee of the "Lend a Hand to Dixie Land" to raise a hundred thousand dollars for educational and legislative work in the south, which was being handled under the auspices of the New York City Committee of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. The article listed Katherine Dunham as one of the sponsors. (100-10355-A)

The Southern Conference for Human Welfare was cited as a Communist front organization by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities in its Report dated March 29, 1944.

The Workers Party

A confidential informant of known reliability advised that on November 12, 1944, at a regular meeting of the Branch Executive Committee of the Worker's Party, Detroit, Michigan, it was decided to hold a theatre party and approximately \$18 was appropriated from the treasury for the purpose of purchasing a block of tickets for a dance recital to be given by Katherine Dunham at the Cass Theatre in Detroit, Michigan. (100-86590-15-26, page 7)

The Worker's Party was cited by the Attorney General as an organization within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

No investigation has been conducted by the FBI concerning Katherine Dunham.

The above information is furnished for your confidential use only and is not to be distributed outside of your agency. This is the result of an FBI file check only and is not to be considered as a clearance or non-clearance of the individual involved.

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

April 8, 1948

The attached was forwarded
to the Director by Walter
Winchell. The notations
thereon read:

"Rose to J.E.H. Then for
L.L." and "Hello" [redacted]
[redacted]

Attachment
mt

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Mr. Egan ✓

[redacted]
Mr. Harbo ✓
Mr. Jones ✓
Mr. Mohr ✓
Mr. Pennington ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Mr. Nease ✓
Miss Holmes ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

Wachman
per Mr. Tamm
mt

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/13/00 BY SP4 Jaf/tey

May 22, 1953

KATHERINE DUNHAM AKA PRATT
Born: June 22, 1912
Chicago, Illinois

This information is being furnished as a result of your request for an FBI file check only and is not to be considered as a clearance or nonclearance of the individual involved.

A search of the records of this Bureau failed to locate any data pertinent to your inquiry other than that which is set forth below.

For information concerning the subject of your inquiry, you are referred to the files of the following agencies:

Memorandum dated March 18, 1953, captioned "Katherine Dunham Pratt, aka, Katherine Dunham."

100-334795-3

Orig. to State

Reason given: Educational Exchange Service.

br
CA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/13/00 BY SP-4 JPT/ty

G. I. R. - 3

RECORDED - 7

100-334795-4

23 MAY

1953

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53 JUN 4 1953

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Congress party given for Katherine Dunham, star of the "Tropical Revue" which was going on in the same building.

(61-777-15-251 p. 9)

The American Youth for Democracy and the National Negro Congress have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past, in October, 1945, advised that Katherine Dunham was one of the Vice-Chairmen of the New York Branch of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Incorporated.

(100-326-34-36- p. 9)

The National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Incorporated, has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that on November 16, 1946, Katherine Dunham, the well-known dancer, made an appointment to see the Consul General of the Soviet Consulate in New York City.

(100-829-916 B. 27 & 28)

The "Worker", the Sunday edition of the "Daily Worker" an east coast Communist newspaper, in the August 25, 1946, issue contained an article captioned "Artists Sponsor Campaign for South." The article set forth that a group of artists have joined the Sponsoring Committee of the "Lend A Hand to Dixie Land" to raise a hundred thousand dollars for educational and legislative work in the South, which was being handled under the auspices of the New York City Committee of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. The article listed Katherine Dunham as one of the sponsors.

(100-10355-A)

The Southern Conference for Human Welfare was cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities in its report dated March 29, 1944, page 147.

(100-334795-3)

A confidential informant who has furnished reliable information in the past stated that an article appearing in the "Excelsior Daily," a Spanish-speaking newspaper, dated

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MAILED

DEC 20 1955

NAME CHECK

December 19, 1955

KATHERINE DUNHAM SUMMARY
Born: June 22, 1910
Chicago, Illinois

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In connection with your inquiry there is attached one copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] San Antonio, Texas, dated October 23, 1944, which was submitted in connection with the case entitled "Katherine Dunham; Security Matter - C; Foreign Travel Control." There are also enclosed two reports of an investigation conducted by the FBI concerning [redacted] which contain considerable information concerning Katherine Dunham who may be identical with the subject of your present inquiry.

(100-334795-138-1637-7)

For your further information the files of this Bureau contain the following additional information.

A confidential informant who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that on November 12, 1944, at a regular meeting of the Branch Executive Committee of the Workers Party, Detroit, Michigan, it was decided to hold a theatre party, and approximately \$18 was appropriated from the treasury for the purpose of purchasing a block of tickets for a dance recital to be given by Katherine Dunham at the Cass Theatre in Detroit, Michigan.

(100-86590-15-26 p. 7)

The Workers Party has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past reported that on February 15, 1945, the Four Freedoms Club of the American Youth for Democracy held a meeting at the Civic Center, 114 Erskine Street, Detroit, Michigan, and that the meeting was adjourned early so that the members could join in with the National Negro

Enclosures (3)

Orig. and one to USIA

Reg rec'd: 11-25-55

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(4)
100-334795)

EX - 130

RECORDED - 19

INDEXED - 19

NOTE: Summary of information on subject sent State 3-18-53. (100-334795). Complete summary sent State, not sent USIA inasmuch as most of the information contained in 138-1637-6). 1955

52 DEC 28 1955

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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February 5, 1953, contained information that [redacted] renowned writer and Communist, was then residing in Cuernavaca, Mexico. According to the informant, [redacted] was stated in the article to have been expelled from the United States in August, 1951, because of his Communist activities; that he came to Cuernavaca, from the State of Morolos, Mexico, where he united with [redacted] Katherine Dunham, Aaron Copeland, pianist and composer, and [redacted] The article stated that this group had created quite a stir in that city and that last year they sang in loud voice the Communist International.

(64-200-221-13) Source - [redacted]
You may also wish to consult the files of the Civil Service Commission, their number (2).24.53.1694, and the records of the House Committee on Un-American Activities for possible further information concerning the captioned individual (100-334795)

The foregoing information is furnished to you as a result of your request for an FBI file check and is not to be construed as a clearance or a nonclearance of the individual involved. This information is furnished for your use and should not be disseminated outside of your agency.

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

4-22a

SEARCH SLIP

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Subj: Dunham, Katherine

Supervisor Room

R# (93) Date 11-20-53 Searcher Initial 155206

FILE NUMBER SERIAL

Wtd from sum 1-18-53

100-334795

100-334795-33-18-53

64-200-221-1349 p.7

105-39762-6

SI 138-2065-3 R108

SI 77-61238-25

SI 138-14-122 D100

SI 138-1637-1 K100

100-340922-A N.Y. news 5-7-53

SI 121-19541-36

100-63240-64 E.p.4

Katherine Dunham (Vas)

61-7558-596-E.p.301

SI 16-170681-4

100-17139-42

Katherine

100-20604-17

100-135 sub. 47-22

NI

SI 100-3 sub. 23-458

65-49213-129 p.11

SI 100-325498-6

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

4-22a

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Katherine Dunham

Supervisor Room
(93) Date 11-30 Searcher Initial 5-206

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

Catherine

61-7582-1298 p. 106 INC
I TO MAIN FILE
61-10149-486 p. 71
100-57453-278 p. 29, 43
121-23278-267X128 p. 153
100-11507-133
100-253014-1
100-203581-1825

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/15/00 BY SP-4 Bjt/ty

① 100-334795-138-1637

② 100-86590-15-26 p. 9

③ 61-777-15-251 p. 9

④ 100-326-34-36 p. 9

⑤ 100-829,716 p. 29+28

⑥ 100-10355-A

⑦ 100-334795-3

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED *on this envelope*
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE *1-13-00* BY *SP4 bjt/leg*

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ENCLOSURE

100-224795-6

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106-534795-6

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

**DO NOT
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FOIPA# 1052069

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call



161-HQ-4870-1

Serials 1----

161-

HQ-4870

Sec. 1

b2

1/23/67

Airtel

To: SACs, Washington Field - Enc. (5)
Chicago - Enc.
New York - Enc.
Los Angeles - Enc.
San Francisco - Enc.
Legat Mexico - Enc.

From: Director, FBI

KATHERINE DUNHAM
SPI
BUDED: 2/2/67

White House has requested investigation of Dunham who is being considered for Presidential appointment, position involved not indicated. Born 1/22/09 Chicago, Illinois, and presently resides in New York City area where she is affiliated with Dunham School in New York City. Background data attached. See Who's Who for additional background.

Assign immediately to experienced and sufficient personnel. Results of this investigation must reach Bureau on or before deadline date.

SPIN.

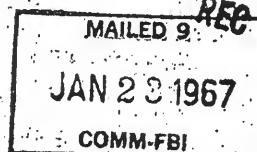
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 BJA/HG

1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (Route through for review)

NOTE: Request received from White House today.

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Wick _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

WHB:pmn
(15)



2 ENCLOSURE

61 MAR 2 1967

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Return to Mr. Burke Room 1254.

4870 - 1
JAN 24 1967

18
THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington

Red
1-20-67
JW
MEMORANDUM

January 19, 1967

TO : FBI

FROM : Mildred Stegall

SUBJECT : FBI Investigation

b6
b7C

Subject's Name DUNHAM, Katherine

Date of Birth January 22, 1909 Place of Birth Chicago, Ill.

Present Address Habitation Leclerc, Port-Au-Prince, Haiti
Dunham Sch. New York City

has requested:

- ☐ Copy of Previous Report
- ☐ Name Check
- ☒ Full Field Investigation

The person named above is being considered for:

- ☐ White House staff position
- ☒ Presidential appointment
- ☐ Position with another Agency

ATTACHMENTS:

- ☐ SF 86 (in duplicate)
- ☐ SF 87, Fingerprint Card
- ☒ Biography

REMARKS:

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/17/00 BY SP4 bjt/Hcy

REPORT SHOULD BE DELIVERED BY FBI TO: MILDRED STEGALL

ENCLOSURE 161-4870-1

7 Xerox

BIOGRAPHIC DATA

DUNHAM, Katherine
Age 37 (Born January 22, 1909
in Chicago, Illinois)

Home: Habitation Leclerc
Port-Au-Prince, Haiti

*Dunham School
New York City*

PRESENT POSITION

Dancer, Director, Producer and Author

EDUCATION

1936

Student, University of Chicago
Special field training for West Indies Research,
Northwestern University

1936-37

Julius Rosenwald Travel Fellowship to West Indies

FAMILY DATA

Married with one daughter

b6
b7C

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

1934

First major dance performance at the Chicago
World's Fair

1935-36

With Chicago Opera Company

1938

Ballet L'Ag'ya for Federal Theatre

1939

Supervisor, City Theatre Writer's Project on cult
studies, Chicago

1939-40

Dance director, Labor Staff, New York

1940

Appeared in productions, including Cabin in the Sky,
Carnival of Rhythm, Star Spangled Rhythm, Stormy
Weather

1942

Choreographer, Pardon My Sarong

1943

Guest artist, San Francisco Symphony Orchestra

1943-44

Toured Tropical Revue

1945

Appeared with Los Angeles Symphony Orchestra;
Established Katherine Dunham School of Cultural
Arts, Inc., New York; organized Katherine
Dunham Dance Company

1945

Co-staged, choreographed and appeared in Carib Song

1946

Choreographer, Windy City

1946-47

Starred in on Broadway, Bal Negre

1947

Motion picture, Casbah with company in Mexico

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 BJA/tcg

ENCLOSURE

161 - 4870 - 1

1948	Toured cross country with Bill Negro and New Tropical Revue
1948-49	Toured in various European and Asian countries
1961-now	Established school in Port-Au-Prince
1963-now	Established Dunham School, New York City
1962	Production of Bamboche on Broadway
1963	Choreographed Aida, Metropolitan Opera
1964	Staged dances for Esso World Theatre

ALSO

Decorated Haitian Legion of Honor and Merit
 Member: American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers;
 American Guild of Music Artists; American Guild of Variety
 Artists; American Federation of Radio Artists; American Actors'
 Equity Guild; Negro Artists' Guild
 Author of several publications and books
 Contributions to Esquire magazine under pseudonym of K. Dunn

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branchb2
b6
b7C

1/23 1967

☒ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
☒ Service Unit - Room 6524
☒ Forward to File Review
☐ Attention _____
☒ Return to Bupper-1254 -
 Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☐ Subversive References Only
☐ Nonsubversive References Only
☐ Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

☐ Restricted to Locality of _____
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject Katherine Dunham
 Birthdate & Place _____
 Address _____

Localities

R# 100 Date 1/23 Searcher Initials 117
 Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

100-334795 11/30/53
100-334795 I
100-334795-3 3/18/53
100-334795-5 10/19/53
Q2-5-16537 1955
Pratt, Katherine (AKA)
SI

Dunham, K. (AKA)
IVD

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 3/7/00 BY SP4 bja/leg

912444

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

, 19__

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Unit - Room 6524
<input type="checkbox"/>	Forward to File Review
<input type="checkbox"/>	Attention _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Return to <u>Burke</u> <u>1254</u>
	Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular Request (Analytical Search)
<input type="checkbox"/>	All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Subversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nonsubversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted to Locality of _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Buildup _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3-7-00 BY SP-1 [Signature]

Subject Ratherne Dunham
 Birthdate & Place 1/22/09
 Address Chicago
Dancer, Producer (etc)

Localities _____

R# 652 Date 1/2 Searcher Initials Bm
 Prod. 19

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

31-69318	M4R62
63-3470	
100-334795	(Yan Hauer)
161-POC 1125	
100-334795-3	Sum 8/18/55
-5	Sum 12/19/55
37-68496-21	
-39	
-49	
-74	
-77	
-80	
-133	
100-261967	
-166	
-233	
-237	
-240	
-251	
39-915-2561	Kear

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

b6
b7C

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Katherine Dunham
 Supervisor Burke Room 1254
 R# 652 Date 1/26 Searcher Initial Bm
 Prod. 50

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
<u>Katherine Dunham</u>	
<u>39-915</u>	<u>-2565K</u>
<u>[REDACTED]</u>	<u>[REDACTED]</u>
<u>61-777-9</u>	<u>-94</u>
<u>61-777-37</u>	<u>-113</u>
<u>61-6728</u>	<u>-467</u>
<u>61-10149</u>	<u>-517P5,29</u>
<u>61-10471</u>	<u>-25</u>
<u>62-5</u>	<u>-16537</u>
<u>62-95433</u>	<u>-2</u>
<u>64-200-207</u>	<u>-413</u>
<u>64-3001</u>	<u>-1565</u>
<u>65-33604</u>	<u>-24</u>
<u>65-56402</u>	<u>-3272X</u>
<u>65-56402-1</u>	<u>-1097</u>
<u>66-8603-134</u>	<u>-546</u>
<u>77-62238</u>	<u>-25</u>
<u>367</u>	<u>Red</u>

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Bunke³
1254Subj: Katherine DunnhamSupervisor Bunke Room 1254R# 1654 Date 1/26 Searcher Initial BunProd. 1 B. 1-22-09

FILE NUMBER

Home St. Park Ave

SERIAL

Office: 220 W. 43rd St.

NPI 97-281-190

SEI 100-3-4-3024

NPI 100-3-21-257, 282

NPI 100-135-A

P.M. 9/5/43

NPI 100-135-34-491

NPI 100-135-47-A

Daily Worker 11/3/42,

8/24/42

NPI 100-829-916, 27, 28

SEI (JAFG) 100-7061-115, 145, 155

I 609, 7, 25, 1032, 1035, 81

I 1063p4, 1255p40

I 1459p41, 7815p11

NPI 100-7494-38

I 100-7660-2622, 2682

I 100-10355-A

Worker 8/25/46

NPI 100-10772-22p5

I 100-11587-264

I 100-12049-19

I 100-17130-54, 59, 89

NPI 100-28126-A

Daily Worker 11/25/48

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Katherine Durham
 Supervisor: Burke Room 1254
 R# 630 Date 11/26 Searcher Initial OB
 Prod: 299

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

SI 100-87732-45
 PL 100-38425-42
 P 100-41195-32 dinner to home
 NP 100-61122-A Worker 11/20/43
 NP 100-63240-64 ep4
 NP 100-80590-15-26
 P (re. rekey file) 100-92004-A PM 9/16/43
 I JAPRC - NY 100-146864-210X1 = 239 SI
 SI 72, A (Worker 10/10/43) 15NIF
 NP 100-154799-29p11
 NP 100-157464-32
 100-200713-46
 NP 100-202315-554p2-4
 I 100-203581-2416, 2753, 2837
 NP 100-235432-10
 NP 100-24718-12p59

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

5

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Katherine DurhamSupervisor: Burke Room 1254R: 1030 Date 11/26 Searcher Initial 73mProd. 10

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

Katherine Durham

NPI	100-249539 - 8
NPI	100-292353 - 2
NPI	100-331946 - 1
NPI	100-333760 - 2
NPI	100-336803 - 3
NPI	100-337112 - 1
NPI	100-337779 - 2
NPI	100-338119 - 1
NPI	100-338892 - 1
NPI	- 275
NPI	100-341902 - 2018
P/I	100-343808 - 1
P/I	100-350998 - 5
NPI	100-352385 - 1493
NPI	100-353031 - 3
P/I	100-358144 - 3981
SEL	100-367262 - 4
P/I	100-369475 - 1
P/I	100-370903 - 7
NPI	100-384851 - 1
SEL	100-418429 - 6
NPI	100-431124 - 1
NPI	- 3

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

6

SEARCH SLIP

Supervisor Katherine Dunham Room 1254
Date 1/26 Searcher Initial Bm
B.I.-22-09

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
<u>Katherine Dunham</u>	
<u>105-39762</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>105-113736</u>	<u>76 (copy)</u>
<u>109-12-233</u>	<u>631</u>
<u>121-19541</u>	<u>22</u>
	<u>I 36</u>
<u>121-20276</u>	<u>26</u> ^{NI} <u>P 26, 42,</u> <u>(SI) 43,</u>
<u>121-03715</u>	<u>9</u> <u>unindexed</u>
	<u>I 23</u> <u>you have</u>
	<u>I 25</u> <u>you have</u>
<u>121-26766</u>	<u>21</u> <u>none here</u>
<u>121-31296</u>	<u>13</u> <u>(copy)</u>
<u>138-14</u>	<u>122</u>
<u>138-1637</u>	<u>1</u> <u>you have</u>
<u>138-2065</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Kathryn Dunham (var)</u>	
<u>31-68496</u>	<u>X1</u>
<u>61-777-15</u>	<u>243</u>
	<u>I 251</u>
<u>61-6728</u>	<u>484</u>
<u>65-56402</u>	<u>2850</u> <u>P 115</u>
<u>100-154799</u>	<u>38</u>
	<u>I 63</u> <u>SI</u>

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Bunke
1254

Subj: Katherine Dunham

Supervisor: Bunke Room 1254

R# 609 Date 11/2/6 Searcher Initial Bm

Prod. 10-12-09 King, del
Dunham P. Dunham Harte
FILE NUMBER Harte in SERIAL

Katharine Dunham (var)

✓ I 100-154799 - 74 P44.54

✓ I 121-23715 - 9

Katharine Ann (Bu)

NR 63-3470

Katharine Dunham Dancers

✓ I 121-26766 - 21

Katherine Dunham School

✓ I 100-692-66 - 157 P10

Katherine Dunham School of

cultural arts, Inc.

✓ I 100-138754 - 418 P18

Katharine (var)

✓ I 138-1637 - 1

K. Dunham

NR 87-32423

Mrs. K. Dunham

NR 63-3470

Katharine Dunham

✓ I 61-7558 - 596 Ep301

✓ I 100-7061 - A Daily

12/3/48

✓ I 100-17139 - 42

✓ I 100-340922 - A 517/15

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Katherine Dunham
 Supervisor Burke Room 1254
 R B Date 1/26 Searcher Initial Bm
 Prod. 1/26

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

Katherine Dunham
~~NP I~~ 105-8467 - 8
~~NP I~~ 116-170681 - 4
Katherine May Dunham (var)
~~NR~~ 116-70602
Katherin (var)
~~I~~ 100-334795 you have
~~I~~ 100-149163 - A ^{Daily Worker} 10/11/43
Catherine (Var)
~~NR~~ 31-82203
~~I~~ 31-68496 - 58
~~I~~ - 63
~~I~~ 61-7582 - 1298 P1601
~~I~~ 61-10149 - 446X P8
~~SI A~~ - 486 P71
^{SD} ~~SI I~~ ⁵ ~~536~~ 522
~~NP I~~ ⁵ ~~536~~ 522
~~NP I~~ 64-45716 - 387
~~NP I~~ 65-44458 - 198 P10
~~NP I~~ 65-49213 - 129 P11
~~NP I~~ 100-3-23 - 458 p31
~~NP I~~ 100-135-47 - 22 p5
~~I~~ 100-11507 - 133 p21
~~I~~ 100-20604 - 17
~~NR~~ 100-57453 - 278 2743

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Katherine Dunham
Supervisor Bryce Room 1254
R# 100 Date 1/26 Searcher Initial Bjm
Prod. 12

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

Catherine (var)
NP I 100-203581 - 1825
NP I 100-253014 - 1
SET 100-325498-6

AT

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

, 19__

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Searching Unit - Room 6527	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Unit - Room 6524	b6
<input type="checkbox"/>	Forward to File Review	b7C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Attention	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Return to <u>Burke 1254</u>	
	Supervisor	Room Ext..

Type of References Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular Request (Analytical Search)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Subversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nonsubversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted to Locality of _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Buildup <input type="checkbox"/> Variations

Subject Kay Lamm
 Birthdate & Place _____
 Address _____

Localities _____

R# 609 Date 1/27 Searcher Initials SP

Prod. 10

FILE NUMBER 100 SERIAL 100

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/6/99 BY SP4bp/lcg

#912444

11 37
16 17
 JAN 26 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branchb6
b7C

, 19__

☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☐ Forward to File Review
☐ Attention _____
☒ Return to Burke 1254
Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☐ Subversive References Only
☐ Nonsubversive References Only
☐ Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

☐ Restricted to Locality of _____
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☒ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject Albert Dunham
Birthdate & Place _____
Address _____

Localities:

Ref. 109 Date 1-27 Searcher Initials OP
Prod. _____

SP. FILE NUMBER 1375 SERIAL
105-34674-3006 see
3064, 2929
2931

NI
NI

Albert E.
ST

Albert Edward
ST

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-10/100
#912444
JAN 21 2001

TELETYPE UNIT
JAN 27 1967
ENCODED MESSAGE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Wick _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

b6
b7C

FBI NEW YORK /10/

1153 AM URGENT 1-27-67 JLW

TO DIRECTOR CHICAGO LOS ANGELES AND SAN FRANCISCO
FROM NEW YORK 161-2271 2P

MR. CLEVELAND
ROOM 1246

KATHERINE DUNHAM, AKA MRS. JOHN THOMAS PRATT, KAY DUNN, SPI, BUDED
FEB. TWO, SIXTYSEVEN

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY 246/aryg

REBUTEL JAN. TWENTYTHREE, LAST.

BUSINESS ASSOCIATES, NEW YORK CITY, ADVISED APPOINTEE BORN
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, JUNE TWENTYTWO, ZERO NINE.

HUSBANDS PARENTS BORN CANADA, DECEASED. APPOINTEES
BROTHER, ALBERT DUNHAM, DECEASED.

ASSOCIATES ADVISED APPOINTEE MAINTAINED APARTMENT IN NEW YORK CITY AND
KNOW OF NO OTHER CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES ADDRESSES. APPOINTEE
CONSTANTLY ON WORLD TOURS WITH DUNHAM COMPANY DANCING TROOP, ALONG
WITH HUSBAND. APPOINTEE PRESENTLY IN AFRICA AND MOROCCO.

END PAGE ONE

NOT RECORDED

25 MAR 13 1967

MAR 27 1967

b6
b7C

PAGE TWO

[REDACTED]
APPOINTEE MAINTAINS RESIDENCE PORT-AU-

PRINCE, HAITI.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] PRESENTLY ASSOCIATED WITH S. HUOK ARTISTS,
INC., LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

ALL OFFICES CONDUCT APPROPRIATE AGENCY CHECKS. CHICAGO VERIFY
APPOINTEE'S BIRTH. LOS ANGELES INTERVIEW ASSOCIATE [REDACTED]
END

MLT FBI WASH D C

APR 11 1963

1/27/67
FBI NEW YORK /21

510PMURGENT 1/27/67 WMS

TO DIRECTOR* CHICAGO* AND WASHINGTON FIELD

WASHINGTON FIELD VIA WASHINGTON

FROM NEW YORK 161-2271 ,P, /1P

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/17/00 BY SP4 bja/leg

KATHERINE DUNHAM* SPI* BUDED FEBRUARY TWO NEXT.

Mr. Tolson_____
Mr. DeLoach_____
Mr. Mohr_____
Mr. Wick_____
Mr. Casper_____
Mr. Callahan_____
Mr. Conrad_____
Mr. Felt_____
Mr. Gale_____
Mr. Rosen_____
Mr. Sullivan_____
Mr. Tavel_____
Mr. Trotter_____
Tele. Room_____
Miss Holmes_____
Miss Gandy_____

MR. CLEVELAND
ROOM 4246

REURAIRTEL TO WASHINGTON FIELD JANUARY TWENTY THREE LAST.

[REDACTED] THEATRE GUILD* NEW YORK CITY TODAY
ADVISED APPOINTEE FIRST BECAME INVOLVED IN THE THEATRE IN
CHICAGO WITH THE "CUBE THEATRE". APPOINTEE DID CHOREOGRAPHY
WORK FOR [REDACTED],PH, IN CONNECTION WITH CHICAGO CIVIC
BALLET AND CHICAGO OPERA. [REDACTED] SAID APPOINTEE WAS
INVOLVED WITH WPA THEATRE WHERE SHE MET HER HUSBAND WHO WAS
A DESIGNER. [REDACTED] SAID APPOINTEE EITHER IN
CONNECTION WITH A HATIAN GOVERNMENT OF BY HER SELF SET UP AN
ORPHANAGE IN HAITI. AFTER WORLD WAR II WORKED CLOSELY WITH HATIAN
GOVERNMENT.

b6
b7C
b7D

INFORMATION CONCERNING APPOINTEE,S CONNECTION WITH HATIAN
GOVERNMENT BEING FURNISHED TO BUREAU FOR INFORMATION.

CHICAGO INTERVIEW [REDACTED],PH,.

WASHINGTON FIELD VERIFY EMPLOYMENT BY WPA THEATRE.

SPIN.

END

RAK R RELAY

301
MAR 27 1967
FBI WASH DC
TWO COPIES TO WFO

161-4870-3
NOT RECORDED

25/MAR 13 1967

1 - Mr. Burke

1/27/67

airtel

To: SACs, Washington Field
Chicago
New York
San Francisco
Los Angeles
Detroit
Baltimore
Seattle
Philadelphia

From: Director, FBI

0
KATHERINE DUNHAM
aka Katherine Pratt
Mrs. John Thomas Pratt
SPECIAL INQUIRY
BUDED: 2/2/67

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/17/00 BY SP4 BJA/leg

ReBuairtel 1/23/67, no cc Detroit, Baltimore, Seattle,
or Philadelphia.

For information of Detroit, Baltimore, Seattle, and
Philadelphia, White House has requested investigation of Dunham,
famous Negro dancer and choreographer, who is being considered
for Presidential appointment, position not stated. Born 1/22/09,
Chicago, Illinois, and presently resides New York City area,
where she is affiliated with Dunham School. See Who's Who for
further background data.

Bufiles indicate that during 1940s and 1950s Dunham
was a sponsor, was active in, or had dinners held in her honor
by such cited organizations as Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Com-
mittee; Civil Rights Congress; Philadelphia School of Social
Science; California Labor School; American Youth for Democracy;

WHB:jmb

61 MAR 27 1967

161-4870-4
NOT RECORDED

25 MAR 13 1967

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Return to Mr. BURKE, Room 1254.

MAILED 3
JAN 27 1967

COMM-FBI

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Airtel to Washington Field
Re: KATHERINE DUNHAM

and the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship,
Incorporated.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] wherein characterization of
Dunham is included. Washington Field be particularly alert
to information in CSC and HCUA files concerning Dunham. The
CSC enclosure to Bureau letter which initiated investigation
of Cohn contains information obtained from CSC files regarding
a [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] According to CSC during investigation of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] neighbors indicated the building for the
most part was occupied by communists and a neighbor observed
a communist flag, a picture of Stalin, and several plaques on
the wall of [REDACTED] at the aforementioned
address. [REDACTED] held a tea for Katherine Dunham at which time
the Russian national anthem was sung.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] lived with Dunham
in various areas, including Los Angeles and New York. Be
certain thorough investigation is conducted in this matter.

All offices thoroughly review urfiles. Make
necessary recontacts and handle in accordance with current
Special Inquiry standards. Baltimore check DCII.

TELETYPE UNIT
JAN 30 1967
ENCODED MESSAGE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Wick _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

217 PM URGENT 1-30-67 JEL

TO DIRECTOR AND NEW YORK (NEW YORK VIA WASHINGTON)
FROM ~~SAN FROM~~ SAN FRANCISCO (161-1078)

MR. CLEVELAND
ROOM 1245

KATHERINE CUNHAM, SPI, BUDED: TWO TWO NEXT.

RE BUREAU AIRTEL TO WFO, DATED ONE TWENTY-THREE LAST.

APPOINTEE FORMERLY EMPLOYED BY [REDACTED] NEW

b6
b7C

YORK CITY. SHE ALLEGEDLY LEFT HIM AFTER A DISAGREEMENT.

NEW YORK HANDLE.

AM COPY TO THE BUREAU.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY [REDACTED]

END

QCC 3

FJTLV

MCS FBI WASH DC

161-4870-5

NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 18 1967

See destroyed
6 MAR 27 1967

RELAYED TO

Ny

F B I

Date: 1/30/67

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE

(Priority)

b6
b7C

TO: (AIRMAIL) DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, NEW YORK

FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (161-1078)

KATHERINE DUNHAM, SPI, BUDED: TWO TWO NEXT.

RE BUREAU AIRTEL TO WFO, DATED ONE TWENTY-THREE LAST.

APPOINTEE FORMERLY EMPLOYED BY [REDACTED] NEW YORK CITY. SHE ALLEGEDLY LEFT HIM AFTER A DISAGREEMENT.

NEW YORK HANDLE.

AM COPY TO THE BUREAU.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/7/00 BY SP4/leg

NOT RECORDED

1 JAN 31 1967

1 - Bureau
1 - San Francisco
DWK/cab
(2)

Approved: 61 MAR 27 1967

Special Agent in Charge.

Sent

M

Per

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 1/31/67	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 1/24/67 - 1/31/67
TITLE OF CASE KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka Katherine Pratt Mrs. John Thomas Pratt		REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 15px;"></div>	TYPED BY cab
		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY	

REFERENCES: Bureau airtel to WFO, 1/27/67.
New York teletype to Bureau, 1/27/67.
Bureau airtel to WFO, 1/23/67.
San Francisco teletype to Bureau, 1/30/67.

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b6
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- RUC -

INFORMANTSIdentity

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/7/00 BY SP-1 BJA/Keg

File Where Located

100-0-1497

(Characterization of

(Characterization of

Case has been: Pending over one year ☒ Yes ☐ No; Pending prosecution over six months ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE:

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1 - San Francisco (161-1078)

161-48701-7

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FEB 2 1967

REC'D - 10 32 AM '67

Spec. Inv.

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency			
Request Recd.			
Date Fwd.	61 MAR 27 1967		
How Fwd.			
By			

SF 161-1078
DWK/cab

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

Identity

File Where Located

[REDACTED]

61-288-84

100-124-1

(Characterization of

[REDACTED]

100-4405-82

Other confidential informants referred to are:

[REDACTED] contacted by SA [REDACTED] on
January 31, 1967.

[REDACTED] contacted on January 31, 1967.

[REDACTED]

ADMINISTRATIVE

This report is classified confidential as information
from [REDACTED] through [REDACTED] if disclosed, could reasonably
result in identification of informants and techniques of con-
tinuing value to the Bureau.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy to:

Report of:

Date:

January 31, 1967

Office:

San Francisco

Field Office File #:

161-1078

Bureau File #:

Title:

KATHERINE DUNHAM

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b6
b7C
b7D

Character:

SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

KATHERINE DUNHAM resided at home of [redacted] while in San Francisco in 1943. [redacted] was CP member in 1943 according to informants. Appointee attended functions of American Russian Institute and JAFRC in 1944. She received publicity in "People's World", a west coast Communist newspaper in 1941, 1942, and 1946. Described as outstanding entertainer, specializing in the African dance. One former employer recommended her as a dancer but would not recommend her for a position of trust with U. S. Government because of former association with JAFRC and American Russian Institute. No credit or police record in San Francisco.

- RUC -

DECLASSIFIED BY SP4bjx/tcg
ON 2/7/00DETAILS:

[redacted] who is unavailable for recontact, stated on September 17, 1942, that [redacted] had advised that a couple of the DUNHAM dancers were real "Reds" and that KATHERINE DUNHAM was sympathetic.

[redacted] advised in 1942 that [redacted] held regular meetings of the Communist Party at her home

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

SF 161-1078
DWK/cab

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[redacted]
[redacted] from March through June, 1942. [redacted] advised in 1945 that [redacted] was a member of the Columbus Professional Club of the Communist Party (CP) in San Francisco and that CP meetings were held at her residence [redacted] in February and March, 1945. On January 25, 1947, [redacted] stated that [redacted] attended a meeting of the [redacted] Branch of the CP and that [redacted] was one of the members expelled for security reasons.

A check of the records at the United States Probation Office, San Francisco, in 1954, showed that [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] advised on December 2, 1943, that the advanced class for CP functionaries was to be held at [redacted] home on December 15, 1943.

In March, 1944, [redacted] who is unavailable for recontact, advised that the Soviet Consulate in San Francisco was attending to the invitations being issued for the reception being held under the auspices of the American Russian Institute in honor of KATHERINE DUNHAM, the prominent dancer.

The American Russian Institute has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

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SF 161-1078
RML/cab

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The following investigation was conducted by SA
[REDACTED]

AT KENTFIELD, CALIFORNIA

On January 30, 1967, [REDACTED] advised that she first became acquainted with KATHERINE DUNHAM about 1942. [REDACTED] recalled that KATHERINE DUNHAM was brought to San Francisco for a dancing performance by DAN LONDON, Manager of the St. Francis Hotel. She stated that this performance was booked at the San Francisco Legion of Honor and was perhaps for charity. She stated that there was a problem with regard to housing for KATHERINE DUNHAM and the latter stayed at her residence for a few days. Subsequent to this, KATHERINE DUNHAM was booked for performances at the Mark Hopkins Hotel. [REDACTED] stated that subsequent to 1942, she has seen KATHERINE DUNHAM on a number of occasions, primarily during the latter's trips to the San Francisco area. KATHERINE DUNHAM has stayed at the [REDACTED] residence on two or three occasions. She considers KATHERINE DUNHAM to be a person of excellent character and reputation and one of wide cultural and educational background. She stated that she could recommend her for a position of trust and responsibility with the United States Government.

The following investigation was conducted by SA
[REDACTED]

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

SF 161-1078
DWK/cab

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[redacted] advised in March, 1944, that [redacted] had stated that KATHERINE DUNHAM, noted dancer, had expressed her willingness to have her troupe put on a performance for the benefit of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee (JAFRC).

The JAFRC has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States as coming within the purview of Executive Order 10450.

In November, 1945, [redacted] advised that [redacted] joined the CP about 1936 and since that time had been closely associated with various Communist and Russian groups in the United States. [redacted] stated that [redacted] was a woman of considerable means and had been a heavy contributor to Communist front groups.

In April, 1944, [redacted] who is unavailable for re-contact, stated that one DUNHAM, not otherwise identified, was said to have given a check for \$1,000 for the California Labor School.

The California Labor School has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The November 8, 1941 issue of the "People's World", a west coast Communist newspaper, carried an article concerning KATHERINE DUNHAM, the famous dancer. This article stated that she was the recipient of the Guggenheim Fellowship, had a doctor's degree in anthropology and had endorsed the Festus Coleman Committee efforts.

The Festus Coleman Committee was cited as a Communist front by the California Senate Fact-Finding Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 1948, page 172.

The "San Francisco Chronicle" for July 18, 1942, carried an article in Herb Caen's column that KATHERINE DUNHAM, not otherwise identified, was to dance at an affair by the JAFRC at the Mural Room of the St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco.